
Bear's Lair Cabin on the New River Austinville

The Bear's Lair Cabin is a rental cabin on the banks of the New River in Austinville. The log cabin is brand new construction, well-insulated and very energy efficient in both winter and summer. The owners are committed to maintaining a natural, healthy environment at the cabin for both their human visitors and their wildlife residents. The New River is a national treasure that the owners cherish and enjoy sharing with their guests.



GREEN ACTIVITIES

☒ **Optional Linen Service.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must have some sort of system in place that allows guests to not have their sheets and towels changed every day. This facility pledges that they:

- Have signage in each guest room explaining the linen reuse procedures
- Train house cleaners on process for optional linen service
- Minimize use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals

☒ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must recycle and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:

- Provide the opportunity for guests to recycle: glass bottles, plastic bottles, aluminum cans

Guest rooms

- Use bulk soap dispensers instead of individual soaps/shampoos in guest rooms
- Use refillable shampoo bottles rather than single-use bottles

Kitchen (or meetings/events)

- Compost food waste and other compostables

Dining room (or meetings/events)

- Do not use any disposable containers, dishware, cutlery, or cups

Office

- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Reuse or donate shipping and packing supplies (peanuts, bubble wrap, etc.)
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible

Building and grounds

- Use latex low or no-VOC paints
- Re-use paint thinners
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles

☒ **Water Conservation.** The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

Activities indoors

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have installed: low flow faucets and showerheads (use less than 2.5 gallons per minute) and low flow toilets (use 1.6 gallons per flush or less)

Activities outdoors

- Have an effective landscape management plan which minimizes lawn areas
- Maintain vegetative buffers around streams and ponds
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers

☒ **Energy Conservation.** The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills

Heating and cooling

- Have installed ceiling fans
- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems

Lighting

- Use natural lighting
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting

For more information on **Bear's Lair Cabin on the New River**, see www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=59765 or contact Lynne Webb at lpwebb@gmail.com or (540) 556-1903.

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. *Virginia Green* is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation. The program has established "core activities" specific to each sector of tourism; these practices are the minimum requirements for participation in the program, but encourages participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations. **Virginia Green Partners** are committing to help support the program and encourage their customers to join or do business with Virginia Green-certified participants. Although not necessarily tourism facilities themselves, Partners are expected to practice green activities in their own facilities as well. For more information on **Virginia Green**, see

<http://www.deq.state.va.us/p2/viriniagreen/homepage.html> or go to
www.viriniagreentravel.org.

